

Message Text

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ORIGIN OPIC-06

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DRAFTED BY OPIC/F :DKELLY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

UNCLAS STATE 197458

FROM OPIC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, EINV

SUBJECT: GULF RESOURCES VISIT TO SALAR DE UYUNI

1. OPIC REQUESTS THAT U.S. EMBASSY ASSIST GULF RESOURCES IN FOLLOWING MATTER: GULF RESOURCES IS A NATURAL RESOURCES COMPANY WITH INTERESTS IN COAL, OIL AND METALS. IT IS ALSO THE PARENT COMPANY OF LITHIUM CORPORATION OF AMERICA, A LEADING LITHIUM PRODUCER, AND GREAT SALT LAKE CHEMICALS, WITH EXPERTISE IN COMPLEX POTASH AND MAGNESIUM BRINES. GULF IS AWARE OF THE RECENT DISCOVERY OF LITHIUM AND POTASH BRINES IN SALAR DE UYUNI. MR. KEITH EVANS, MANAGER OF SPECIAL PROJECTS IN THE EXPLORATION SUBSIDIARY, WISHES TO VISIT BOLIVIA TO DISCUSS EVALUATION AND POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BRINES WITH GOB. EVANS WOULD LIKE TO VISIT BOLIVIA DURING THE WHOLE WEEK OF AUGUST 15TH IN WHICH THREE DAYS PROBABLY NECESSARY TO VISIT THE DEPOSIT AND DURING REMAINING PERIOD WOULD WISH TO DISCUSS WITH SERVICIO GEOLOGICO, RELEVANT MINISTRY AND IN ADDITION APPRAISE THE LEGAL AND INVESTMENT ENVIRONMENT. EVANS TENTATIVELY THINK-
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ING OF ARRIVING NIGHT OF SATURDAY, 14TH AND LEAVING NIGHT

OF FRIDAY, AUGUST 20. NATURAL STARTING POINT IS THE
SERVICIO GEOLOGICO WHO WOULD PROBABLY WISH TO ACCOMPANY MR.
EVANS ON THE PROSPECT. OPIC MAY PROVIDE INSURANCE/FINANC-
ING TO RESULTING PROJECT.

2. OPIC REQUESTS EMBASSY ASSIST IN INFORMING APPROPRIATE
INTERESTED ORGANIZATIONS, ARRANGING AUGUST 16 MEETING FOR
MR. EVANS WITH SERVICIO GEOLOGICO, AND THAT ADDITIONAL
APPOINTMENTS AND ARRANGEMENTS, AS APPROPRIATE, BE MADE.
ANY OTHER ASSISTANCE EMBASSY CAN OFFER WOULD BE APPRECIATED.
MANY THANKS. ROBINSON

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